

PATENT

DOCKET SNX 0202

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Dr. Alex Ning

:Examiner VU, NGOC YEN T (SPE)

Serial Number: 10/714,129

Group 2622

Phone (571) 272 7320

Filed: 11/13/02

FAX (703)

Date 10/30/06

For: A IMAGER WITH RETRACTABLE LENS

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS CHECK REQUEST

Please investigate the examination status of this case and give me a call, if possible, at my number below. I called a phone number above that I obtained from the PTO locator and was told that there was another VU, NGOC YEN T and that was about three weeks ago, so I have no confidence that I have the correct number.

The subject case has a last status date of 04/15/04 and that is now over 2 ½ years in process. Advise if there is something I should be doing to move the case along. I have made several calls over this period. The inventor NING has a number of cases in the optics field that have issued, with at least one in less than one year with art unit 2873. Could the subject case here have been miss classified?

When I checked on this case some time ago, I think that I was told that the original Examiner was on a temporary assignment at the Commissioner's Office which may explain how the case arrived on your desk. Phone calls over the span of months, resulted in a variety of estimates of time for first office action, none of which actually resulted in an examination. There was the move of the PTO to new facilities and the reassignment of the original Examiner to the Commissioner's Office etc.

As a result of calls at the time, I was left with the impression that when the opportunity bell rang in the Commissioner's Office, little consideration was given to the pendency of applications in sequence. In the absence of any specific information on how such events are managed, and if you are overloaded, perhaps you could now check and see if the Commissioner's work load has abated and your docket is overloaded, perhaps the original Examiner is now again available for the work at hand.

There is a second case that I have that is with your docket. It is serial number 10/778,785 filed 02/13/04 with my docket SNX0301. The inventor is also NING. I will send a second letter for the status of that case.

Feel free to give me a call with your present estimate of when the client can expect the case to be taken up for examination.

Respectfully Submitted

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